



How to Build an Islamic Library

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In the name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful





Assalamu'alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu,

We pray that this message reaches you
in good health and imaan.

On behalf of our AMAU Academy team, we would like
to present to you these compiled notes that we have
prepared to make your journey with us a lot easier.

Our notes are compiled by the AMAU Admin team
and have not been comprehensively checked
by a teacher.

If you find any errors or corrections that need
to be made, kindly inform us via our email
helpdesk@amauacademy.com

May Allah make our paths toward seeking
beneficial knowledge easy and kindle our hearts
with sincerity and gratefulness
towards Him.

Jazakumullahu Khayran



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Table of Contents

07	<i>Chapter One</i>	The Importance of Having Books
10	<i>Chapter Two</i>	The Necessity of Every Student of Knowledge
12	<i>Chapter Three</i>	Strive to Benefit From Your Books
14	<i>Chapter Four</i>	Effects of Books on the Household
17	<i>Chapter Five</i>	A Unique Way of Preserving Knowledge
19	<i>Chapter Six</i>	The Experience of Reading
21	<i>Chapter Seven</i>	Types of Islamic Knowledge
23	<i>Chapter Eight</i>	Books for Every Muslim

28 *Chapter Nine*

Books for Students of Knowledge - Part 1

33 *Chapter Ten*

Books for Students of Knowledge - Part 2

38 *Chapter Eleven*

Vital Advice When Buying Books

Glossary



جل جلاله | Jalla Jalāluhu
Allah the Most Exalted



صلى الله عليه وسلم | Sallāllāhu Alayhi Wa Sallam
Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him



رضي الله عنه | RadiAllahu `anhu
May Allah be pleased with him



رضي الله عنها | RadiAllahu `anha
May Allah be pleased with her



رحمه الله | Rahimahullah
May Allah have mercy upon him

The Importance of Having Books



Chapter One

ISLAM

IS A RELIGION DEEPLY CONNECTED TO

READING & WRITING

1 Allah's ﷺ first revelation to the Prophet ﷺ was a testament to the significance of reading, as He ﷻ revealed:



Read! In the Name of your Lord Who has created (all that exists). He has created man from a clot (a piece of thick coagulated blood). Read! And your Lord is the Most Generous. Who has taught (the writing) by the pen. He has taught man that which he knew not.

Al-'Alaq 1 - 5

Scholars say that these Aayaat show that we are a "Nation of reading."

The Prophet ﷺ himself encouraged literacy among the Sahaabah رَضِيََ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ, urging them to learn how to read and write.

This emphasis on literacy extended even to wartime - in the Battle of Badr, men from Quraysh who were taken prisoners were given the opportunity to secure their freedom by teaching the Sahaabah رَضِيََ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ to read and write.

Moreover, the Prophet ﷺ used to instruct the Sahaabah رَضِيََ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ to write down the revelations he received.

2 It has been narrated from Abu Hurairah رَضِيََ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ that he said:

قال أبو هريرة ما كان أحد أعلم بحديث رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم مني إلا ما كان من عبد الله بن عمرو فإنه كان يكتب بيده ويعي بقلبه ، وكنت أعي ولا أكتب.

No one was more knowledgeable about the hadith of the Messenger of Allah, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, than I was except Abdullah bin ‘Amr, for he used to write with his hand and write in his heart, and I was aware and did not write.

Fath al-Bari 1/250 | Grade: Hasan

‘Abdullah bin ‘Amr ibn al-‘Ās رَضِيََ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا had a bunch of parchment which he called As-Saadiqah (الصادقة). It contained ahadith that he had heard directly from the Prophet ﷺ.

Esteemed scholars like Imam Malik, Imam ash-Shafi'i, and Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal were keen on reading, writing and gathering books. This is where the idea of preserving compilations and having libraries came from.

Thus, in order to excel as a scholar, you need to have a lot of books.

Many stories and accounts from past scholars demonstrate their dedication to building and maintaining vast libraries. One such story recounts a scholar who was deeply affected by the burning down of his personal library. This loss reportedly even led to inaccuracies in his narration of ahadith.

Another story tells us that Yahya ibn Ma'īn was very interested in reading the writings of Imam ash-Shafi'i. He found out about a woman who had recently lost her husband and inherited the books of Imam ash-Shafi'i from him. According to the story, Yahya ibn Ma'īn proposed marriage to this woman, hoping that this would allow him to study the books.

During the Abbasid Caliphate, libraries brimmed with knowledge and became open to the public across the Islamic states. These centres of learning were not just for storing books; they offered designated areas for various activities. One such area was specifically set aside for meticulously copying books by hand, as printing technology had not been invented at that time.

One such library existed in Baghdad by the name of Bayt al-Hikmah (بيت الحكمة). Another one was in Cairo. It was called Daar al-Hikmah (دار الحكمة). In cities like Qurtuba, there were vast libraries, one of which housed several thousand books.

People also built personal libraries. One notable example is that of Imam Ibn al-Qayyim. It is said that his library was so extensive that scholars would borrow books from it. When he passed away, his sons retained some of his books and sold the remainder. They earned a significant amount of money from the sale of his books, which sustained them quite comfortably for a considerable period.

The scholar Badr ad-Deen Ibn Jamaa'ah wrote in his book Tadhkirah as-Saami' wa al-Mutakallim fi Adab al-'Alim wa al-Muta'allim (تذكرة السامع والمتكلم في أدب العالم والمتعلم), "It is befitting for a student of knowledge to busy himself with gathering and collecting beneficial books."

The Necessity of Every Student of Knowledge

Chapter Two



Books are incredibly valuable for everyone. For those dedicated to Islamic knowledge, having books is not just a choice, it is essential. Without access to a variety of books, including compilations, explanations and texts, it's challenging to fully engage in studying Islamic sciences.

Books hold great worth beyond formal education in Islamic studies, especially for those pursuing other paths like trade or employment. Recognising this, establishing an Islamic library becomes more than just a pursuit for scholars.

Each person's journey is unique, guided by the divine will of Allah ﷻ. While some fully dedicate themselves to scholarly pursuits, others may explore different paths while still nurturing a love for knowledge. Understanding this difference is important when considering building a library.

It is worth noting that you do not need to cover your house from wall to wall with books, as scholars do. Even acquiring a few selected Islamic books can bring significant benefits to those involved in pursuits outside of academia.

In essence, whether you're on a scholarly path or pursuing other interests, having access to books remains essential. Establishing an Islamic library is a testament to the universal quest for enlightenment and understanding in Islam, open to all who seek it.

Strive to Benefit From Your Books

Chapter Three

At the heart of this pursuit of buying Islamic books lies the objective of self-benefit. Indeed, the first person to gain the wisdom and knowledge contained within these texts should be YOU.

Thus, it is incumbent upon you to approach your collection of books with a sense of purpose and intentionality.

Books are not just decorative items to be superficially displayed on bookshelves; they are invaluable resources meant to be actively engaged with. Simply possessing books is not enough; you must strive to immerse yourself in their contents.

When selecting books for your library, it is essential to prioritise texts that will benefit you. Remember, the objective is not to decorate your room with voluminous and scholarly books.

01

Start with books that are easy to read.

02

Read at your own pace.

03

Do not rush to finish them.

04

Your main goal should be to benefit from your books.**“**

**PERHAPS, SOMETHING YOU LEARN
AND IMPLEMENT FROM AN ISLAMIC BOOK
ON YOUR SHELF MIGHT BECOME A REASON
FOR YOU TO BE SAVED ON
THE DAY OF JUDGMENT.**

”

Effects of Books on the Household

Chapter Four

The impact of having books in your home extends beyond yourself.

Books have a significant effect on everyone living in a house, from the young to the old.

1 The Impact of Books on Your Children

Research shows that having a home filled with books positively influences children's academic and intellectual growth. When children see their parents engrossed in reading, they are inspired to do the same. This environment increases their chances of excelling in school and developing a love for reading and learning.

If you have Islamic books at home, keep them where your children can see them, ask about them, and eventually request to read them.

Moreover, you will be rewarded for it. As the Prophet ﷺ told us in a hadith:

مَنْ دَلَّ عَلَى خَيْرٍ فَلَهُ مِثْلُ أَجْرِ فَاعِلِهِ

One who guides to something good has a reward similar to that of its doer.

Sahih Muslim 1893a

By guiding your children towards knowledge, you never know where it might lead them. Perhaps they'll become scholars, continuing a legacy of knowledge and righteousness.

Many noble scholars were raised in homes where Islamic knowledge was valued, like Sheikh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah. His father was a scholar and a linguist, and his grandfather was a prominent figure in the Hanbali Madhhab.

Other such examples include:

- **TĀJ AL-DĪN AL-SUBKĪ WHOSE FATHER WAS TAQĪ AL-DĪN AL-SUBKĪ**
- **‘ABD AL-GHANĪ AL-MAQDISĪ WHO WAS A COUSIN OF IBN QUDĀMAH AL-MAQDISĪ**

To cultivate an environment conducive to raising scholars, one must prioritise learning Islamic knowledge and striving for righteousness.

2 Benefit From Your Library After You Pass Away

Another advantage of having books is that they can continue to benefit others even after you pass away. Therefore, it's wise to plan for your library and dictate your will regarding its fate.

Without proper arrangements, your library may face several challenges:

1

Neglect

If you pass away, your library may be left unattended. Without someone to care for it, the books may gather dust and become damaged over time.

2

Disorganisation

Without clear labelling or organisation, it may be difficult for others to locate specific books within the library. This can lead to frustration and a lack of utilisation.

3

Displacement

In order to create space, the books may be moved to a storage facility or warehouse. This can result in them being forgotten or misplaced, rendering them inaccessible and of no use to anyone.

To avoid these issues, it is essential to make proper arrangements for your library and communicate your wishes regarding its management in your will.

PRO TIP:

Whenever you buy books, intend for them to benefit others even after you are gone. This intention can lead to Sadaqah Jaariyah for you. The person who reads your books may act upon them, teach them to others, and you will be rewarded for enabling this chain of good deeds, in sha Allah.

A Unique Way of Preserving Knowledge

Chapter Five

POSSESSING BOOKS HELPS PRESERVE KNOWLEDGE.

In the Past

Throughout history, the written word has been crucial for passing on valuable knowledge, especially before modern printing.

In the past, preserving knowledge was difficult. Scholars had to copy texts and large volumes by hand to prevent loss. They did this knowing how important it was to preserve knowledge for the future.

The Present Day Situation

Even in modern times, protecting knowledge is essential. While printed books have increased access to information, they encounter new challenges in remaining available.

For instance, an Islamic book may have a single print run. Once all copies are sold, it may not be reprinted for years.

What is astonishing is that sometimes students of knowledge keep searching for these rare books for decades!

In such cases, if you own a copy of the book, you can take the initiative to have more copies printed and make them available for others to purchase. Moreover, you will undoubtedly be rewarded for your efforts.

A Trick of the Enemies of Islam

Many valuable Islamic books are banned and censored by countries and organisations opposed to Islam. Another tactic they employ to restrict Muslim access to knowledge is to buy out all copies of a book, removing it from the market and making it unavailable for purchase.

By obtaining and safeguarding copies of such books, we can ensure access to knowledge for ourselves and future generations.

Furthermore, preserving knowledge holds profound significance, especially when done to counter attempts to suppress Islamic teachings. When books are banned or censored due to their empowering message for Muslims, acquiring and protecting copies becomes an act of resistance against oppression and a means of upholding truth.

The Experience of Reading

Chapter Six

The ultimate benefit of reading is that when one delves into the pages of hadith, Seerah, and biographies, it is as if he or she is transported back in time, seated in the company of the Prophet ﷺ, his noble companions, and the illustrious scholars of the past.

Through the study of hadith collections, readers find themselves enveloped in the wisdom of the Prophet ﷺ and his esteemed companions, gaining insights into their lives, actions, words, and teachings.

Similarly, biographical works offer glimpses into the extraordinary lives of the Salaf, providing inspiration and guidance for contemporary believers.

The act of reading becomes an experience wherein the reader engages with the thoughts, reflections, and teachings of revered scholars and luminaries. As they immerse themselves in the writings of these esteemed figures, they draw closer to the essence of Islam, gaining profound insights into Islamic knowledge, Fiqh, and wisdom.

Abdullah ibn al-Mubarak exemplified this profound connection to knowledge. As an individual, he was known to avoid mixing too much with people and preferred staying in his house.

One day, a person said to him, “Do you not get lonely?”

Abdullah ibn al-Mubarak replied, “How can I get lonely when I am with the Prophet ﷺ and his companions?”

All his life was spent in gathering, reading, memorising, checking, and verifying ahadith. He became so engrossed in studying the statements and teachings of the Prophet ﷺ, the actions and narrations of Abu Bakr, ‘Umar, ‘Uthman, ‘Ali, Talhah, and the lives of companions رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ to the extent that it was almost like he was with them.

Similarly, Imam Abu ‘Isa Muhammad at-Tirmidhi said about his hadith collection Jami' at-Tirmidhi, “Whoever has this book in his house, it is as if he has the Prophet ﷺ in his house speaking to him!”

Through the meticulous preservation and dissemination of ahadith in this book, individuals are afforded the opportunity to read and gain wisdom from the statements and actions of the Prophet ﷺ.

Through the act of reading, individuals forge a profound connection with the luminaries of Islamic history, drawing inspiration and guidance from their teachings and insights. As they navigate the pages of Islamic texts, they find themselves in the company of giants, their hearts and minds illuminated by the timeless wisdom of the Islamic tradition.

Types of Islamic Knowledge

Chapter Seven

In our endeavour to establish an Islamic library, having clarity in objectives and priorities is paramount. This chapter aims to provide practical guidance on how to construct a library tailored to individual needs and aspirations.

To start, it is crucial to distinguish between two distinct categories of individuals:

- 1 Ordinary Muslims seeking knowledge
- 2 Dedicated students of knowledge

Categorising Islamic Sciences

In Islam, acquiring knowledge is not an end but a means to a greater understanding of the religion and its principles. Therefore, when selecting books for your library, it is important to prioritise texts that facilitate comprehension and insight into core Islamic sciences.

One helpful framework for categorising Islamic sciences is to differentiate between Wasaa'il (Means - وسائل) and Ghaayaat (Ends - غايات).

Wasaa'il are those sciences that serve as pathways to a deeper understanding of other Islamic sciences. These are 'means' or stepping stones to understanding the core sciences.

- For instance, studying the Arabic language enables the correct comprehension and interpretation of the Qur'an, Hadith, 'Aqeedah and so on. Thus, it is from the Wasaa'il.
- Let us consider the example of Hadith and Mustalah al-Hadith to understand this concept better.

Mustalah al-Hadith is a science which classifies Hadith narrations into various categories based on their reliability, authenticity, and other criteria. This classification helps distinguish between sound (Saheeh), acceptable (Hasan), weak (Da'eef), fabricated (Mawdoo'), and other types of Hadith reports. This science serves as a pathway to the science of Hadith.

Ghaayaat are those sciences that represent the 'end' goals/ultimate objectives of knowledge acquisition, such as Tafseer, 'Aqeedah, Fiqh and so on.

In this course, we aim to mention prominent books of علوم الغاية to have on your bookshelf, due to their importance in providing foundational knowledge and pathways to a deeper understanding of Islamic sciences.

Books for Every Muslim

Chapter Eight

Building an Islamic library should be approached methodically, considering your level of knowledge and areas of interest within the realm of Islamic sciences.

For those who are not students of knowledge, yet seek to enrich their understanding of Islam, there are foundational texts that serve as indispensable resources.

PRO TIP:

It is recommended to opt for a book from your Madhhab (if you follow one) that is very simple in terms of comprehension. If you do not follow a Madhhab, you may pick a Madhhab that is followed by people in your country.

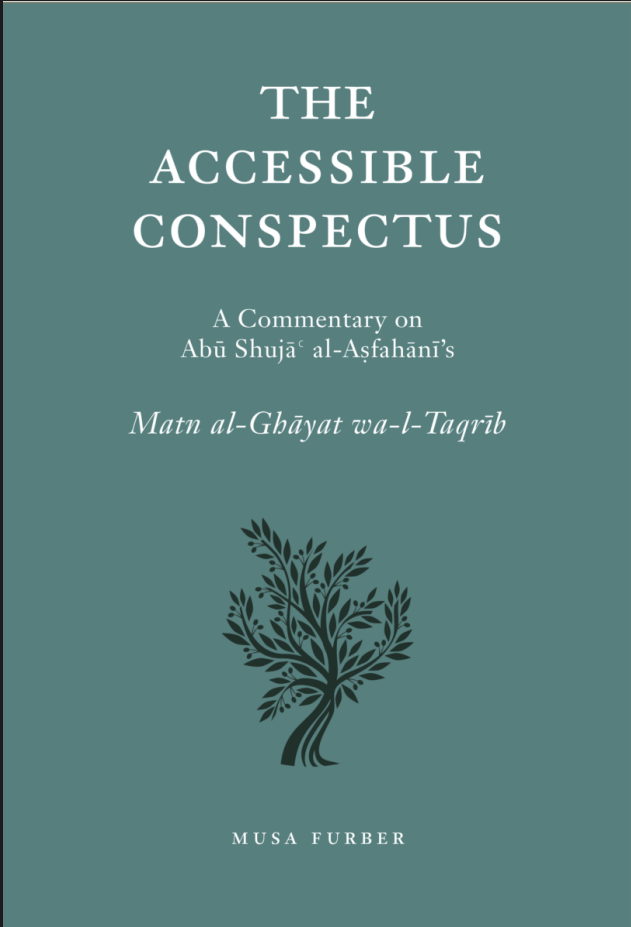
If seeking knowledge is not a primary pursuit for you, it is advisable to select comprehensive books that explain concepts in simple terms.

Disclaimer: The given images are for illustrative purposes only. To find out about the best editions of the mentioned books, refer to a scholar or a student of Knowledge.

FIQH

Mentioned below are notable books of Fiqh:

1



The Accessible Conspectus by Musa Furber

This is a translation of Abu Shuja al-Asfahani's legal primer Mukhtasar Abi Shujaa'. It is a simple and easy-to-understand book on Fiqh that anyone can read. This book adheres to the Shāfi'ī Madhhab.

2



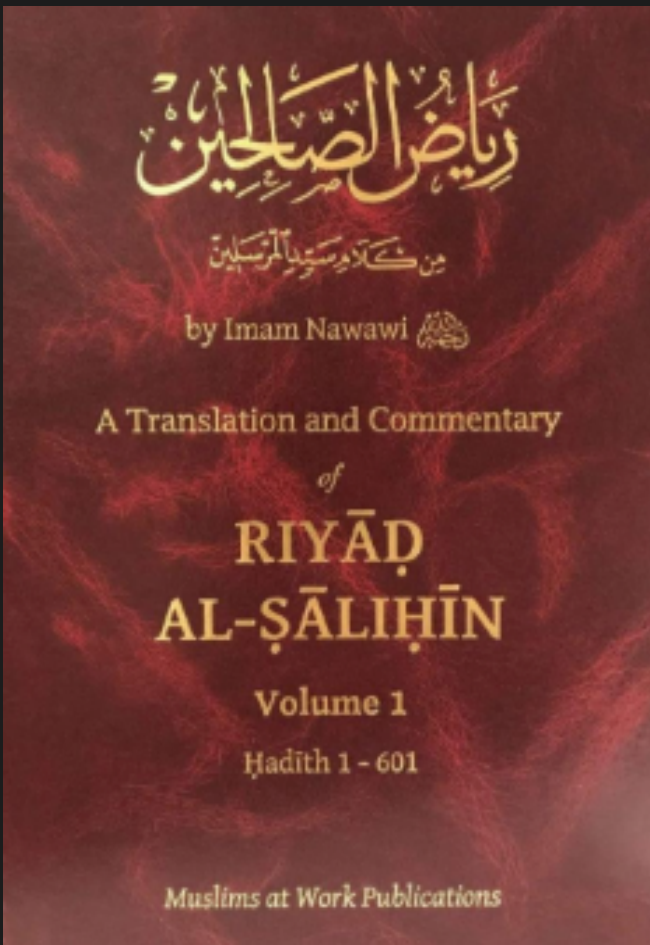
Al-Mulakhkhas Al-Fiqhi by Shaykh Salih Al-Fawzan (الملخص الفقهي - الشيخ صالح الفوزان)

Following the Madhhab of Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal, this book is authored by the esteemed scholar Salih al-Fawzan. It is a beginner-friendly book that has also been translated into English.

HADITH

Mentioned below are notable books of Hadith:

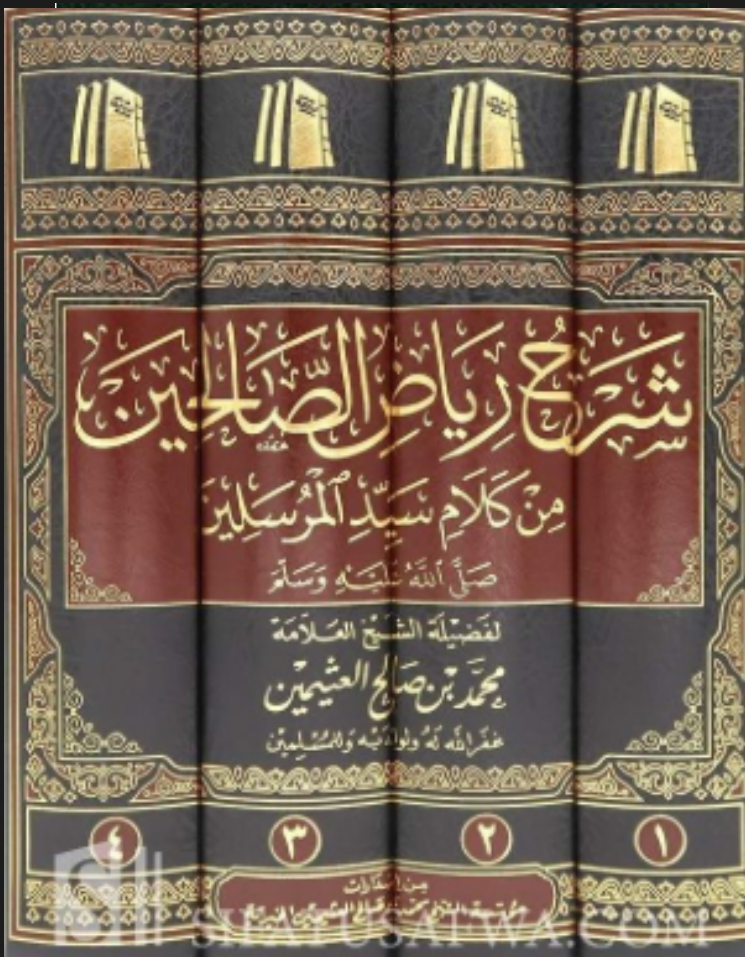
3



Riyad As-Saaliheen compiled by Imam an-Nawawi
(رياض الصالحين للإمام النووي)

This is a timeless classic which is widely recognised and recommended for every Muslim household to have. It is also available in English.

4



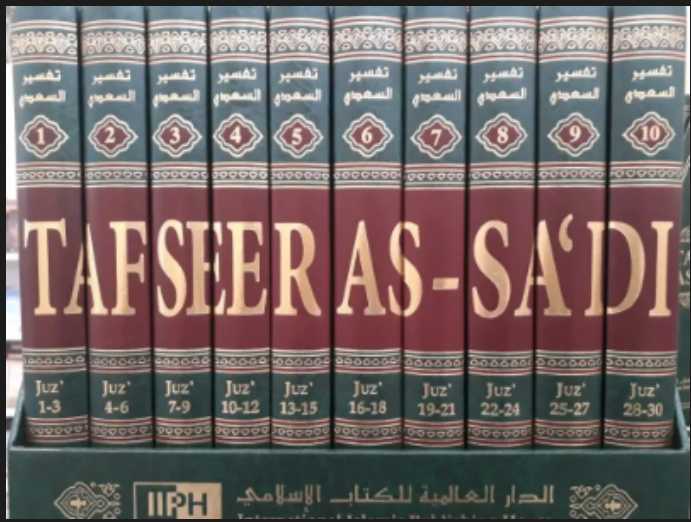
Sharh Riyad as-Saaliheen by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Sālih Al-'Uthaymīn
(شرح رياض الصالحين - الشيخ العثيمين)

This book contains a comprehensive explanation of every hadith in Riyad as-Saaliheen. In this book, Shaykh ibn al-'Uthaymeen meticulously explains each hadith, covering every aspect from beginning to end.

TAFSEER

Mentioned below are notable books of Tafseer:

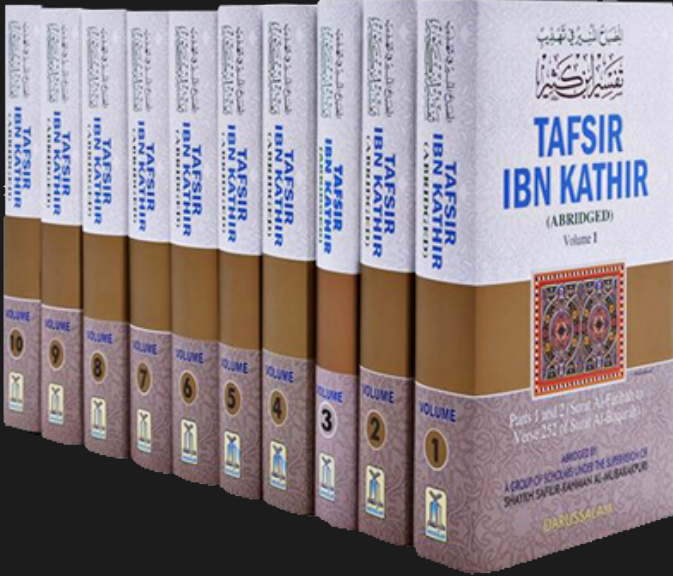
5



Tafseer As-Sa'di by Shaykh Abdur Rahman as-Sa'di
(تيسير الكريم الرحمن في تفسير كلام المنان - الشيخ السعدي)

It is strongly advised to get this reputable Tafseer work - this is one of the best Tafseer books for beginners and has been praised extensively by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Salih al-'Uthaymeen.

6



Tafsir Ibn Kathir (Abridged)

Ibn Kathir's Tafseer stands out as one of the most comprehensive explanations of the Qur'an.

‘AQEEDAH

Mentioned below are notable resources and books of ‘Aqeedah:

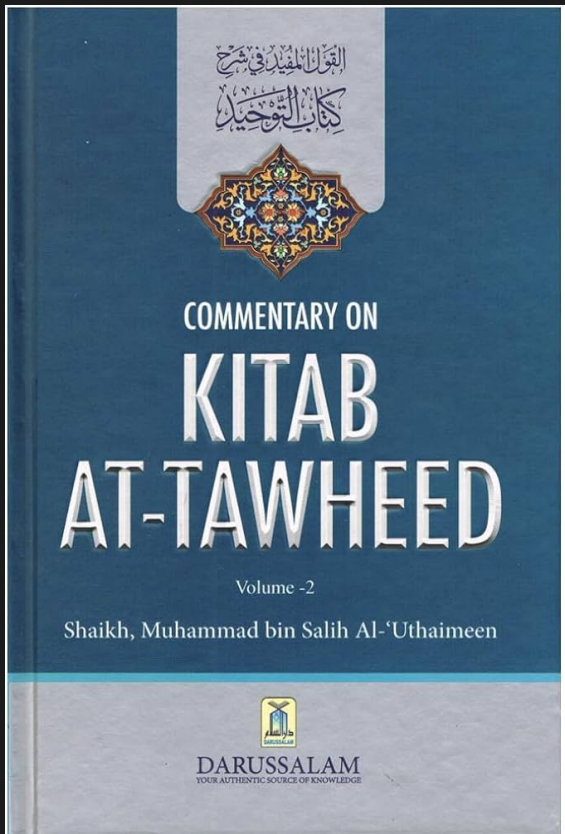
7



‘Aqeedah and The Foundations of The Religion - AMAU Academy

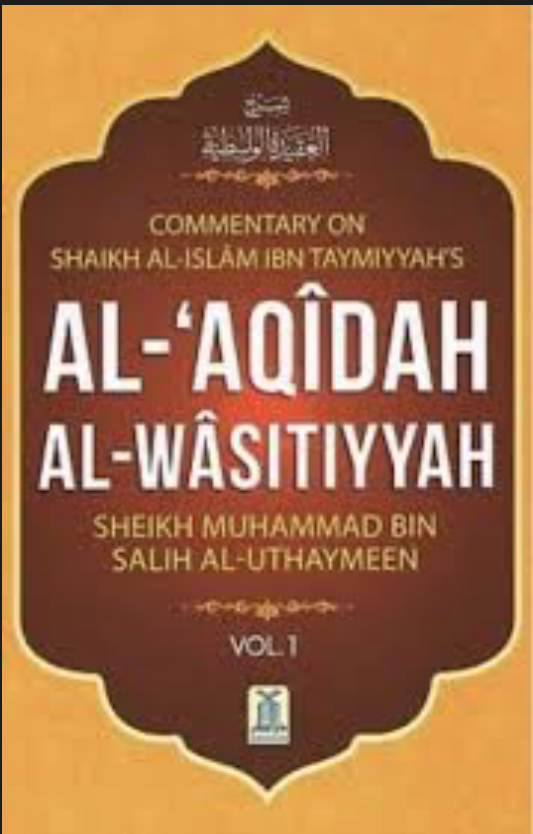
This program offers different levels tailored to learners at various stages of their learning journey. The Beginner’s Level is particularly recommended for those who want to begin their exploration of classical texts. You may find the prospectus for the programme [here](#).

8



Commentary on Kitab At-Tawheed by Shaykh Salih Al-’Uthaymeen

9



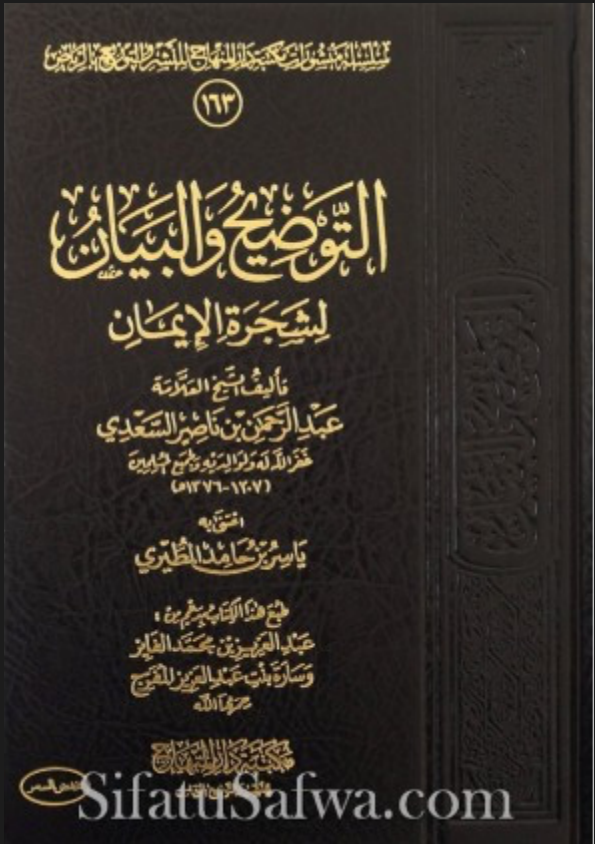
Explanation of Al-'Aqidah Al-Waasitiyyah by Shaykh Salih Al-Uthaymeen

10



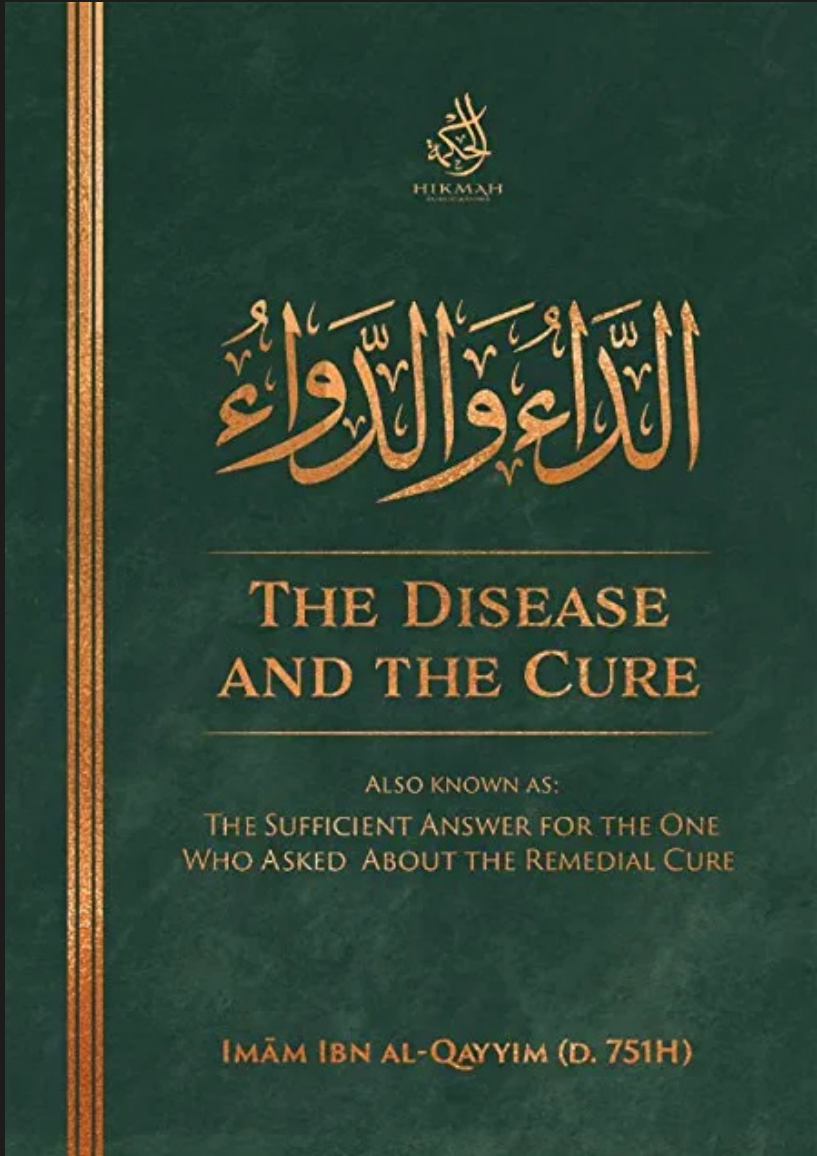
Al-Wasaa'il Al-Mufeedah li Al-Hayaah Al-Sa'eedah by Shaykh as-Sa'di (الوسائل المفيدة للحياة السعيدة - الشيخ السعدي)

11



At-Tawdeeh Wa Al-Bayaan Li Shajarati Al-Imaan by Shaykh as-Sa'di (التوضيح والبيان لشجرة الإيمان للشيخ السعدي)

12

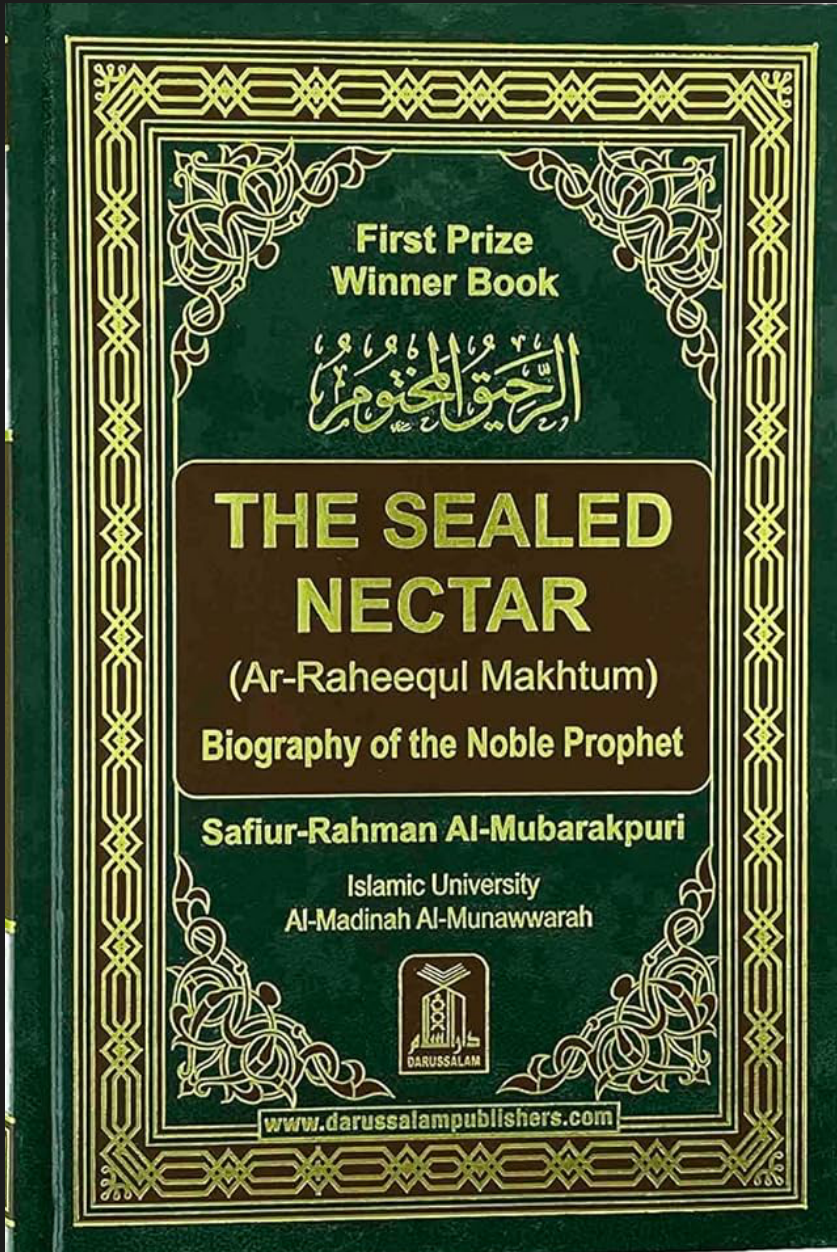


The Disease And the Cure by Imam Ibn Al-Qayyim
(الداء والدواء للإمام ابن قيم الجوزية)

SEERAH

Mentioned below is a notable book of Seerah:

13



Ar-Raheeq Al-Makhtum (The Sealed Nectar)
by Safiur Rahman Al-Mubarakpuri
(الرحيق المختوم - صفي الرحمن المباركفوري)

By curating your library with these foundational texts, you lay the groundwork for a robust understanding of Islam.

Books for Students of Knowledge - Part 1

Chapter Nine

When embarking on the journey to build an Islamic library, especially as a student of knowledge, there are essential considerations to bear in mind.

Being familiar with the previously mentioned types of Islamic sciences is crucial. Here, we would be focusing primarily on notable books of علوم الغاية to have in your book collection.

The books that you purchase should ideally fall into three distinct categories:

1

Books for Intensive Study

These are the foundational texts that you will delve into comprehensively, covering them from beginning to end.

They are the cornerstone of your learning journey - the books you will annotate, discuss with peers, and study under the guidance of a teacher. **Whether it is the curriculum provided by an institution like AMAU Academy or recommendations from a scholar, acquiring the best editions of these books is paramount.**

Seek advice from knowledgeable sources to ensure you procure the most beneficial editions available.

2

Personal Reading Selections

In addition to your primary study texts, there are books you would explore on your own, albeit not necessarily in a formal classroom setting. These books cater to your self-study goals. It is advisable to prioritise foundational works in each Islamic science, as recommended by scholars.

For example, in علوم الحديث ('Uloom al-Hadith), you may find books such as:



- 1 Muqaddimah by Ibn As-Salaah (مقدمة ابن الصلاح)
- 2 Fath Al-Mughith Bi Sharh Alfiyyah Al-Hadith by As-Sakhawi (فتح المغيث بشرح ألفية الحديث للحافظ العراقي - الإمام السخاوي)
- 3 Nukhbatul Fikr by Imam ibn Hajar Al-Asqalani (نخبة الفكر للحافظ ابن حجر)

Likewise, in **حديث الاحكام** (Hadith al-Ahkaam), you may find books such as:

4 Bulūgh Al-Marām by Imam ibn Hajar Al-Asqalani
(بلوغ المرام من أدلة الأحكام - ابن حجر العسقلاني)

5 ‘Umdatul-Ahkaam by ‘Abd al-Ghani Al-Maqdisi
(عمدة الأحكام من كلام خير الأنام - الإمام عبد الغني المقدسي)

Due to constraints in time, finances, and space, focus on acquiring those texts deemed essential by experts in the respective sciences. Recommendations from trusted scholars can serve as invaluable guides in selecting worthwhile reads.

As for this category, it is advised to start with the prospectus of the academy/institution that you are associated with.

3 Reference and Research Materials

Completing your library are encyclopaedic volumes essential for reference and in-depth study. While you may not read these cover to cover, they serve as vital resources for research and consultation. Invest in authoritative editions of these reference works.

Seek guidance from renowned scholars or experienced students of knowledge when uncertain about which editions to acquire. Patience may sometimes be required, as obtaining the best editions often involves careful consideration and comparison.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Aqeedah

When it comes to the science of ‘Aqeedah, it is highly recommended to acquire books by Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah and his student Ibn al-Qayyim.

Hadith

In terms of the science of Hadith, it is advised to get:



- 6
- Jaami' Al-'Uloom Wa Al-Hikam Fi Sharh 50 Hadeeth - Ibn Rajab
(جامع العلوم والحكم - الحافظ ابن رجب)

Buloogh al-Maram is one of the most important books in terms of hadith, particularly concerning the intricate rulings of what is permissible and impermissible. Having explanations of the book by esteemed scholars allows a deeper comprehension of the text.

You may find notable works such as:

- 7
- Minhatu al-'Alam fi Sharh Bulugh al-Maram by Sheikh 'Abd Allah al-Fawzan
(منحة العالم شرح بلوغ المرام - الشيخ عبد الله الفوزان)
- 8
- Subul as-Salam Sharh Buloogh al-Maram by Sheikh as-San'aani
(سبل السلام شرح بلوغ المرام - الإمام الصنعاني)
- 9
- Explanation of Buloogh al-Maram
by Muhammad ibn Salih al-Uthaymeen
- 10
- Riyad as-Saaliheen compiled by Imam an-Nawawi
(رياض الصالحين للإمام النووي)
- 11
- Sharh Riyad as-Saaliheen by Shaykh Muhammad bin Salih Al-Uthaymeen
(شرح رياض الصالحين - الشيخ العثيمين)
- 12
- Kunooz Riyad as-Saaliheen
(كنوز رياض الصالحين)

Tafseer

In Tafseer, it is advised to get:



- 13
- Tafseer Ibn Kathir (تفسير القرآن العظيم - الإمام ابن كثير)
- 14
- Tafseer al-Baghawī (تفسير البغوي - معالم التنزيل - الإمام البغوي)
It is also known as Ma'ālim al-Tanzīl.
- 15
- Tafseer al-Jalalayn by Jalal ad-Din al-Mahalli & Jalal ad-Din as-Suyuti
(تفسير الجالين - الإمام المحلي و الإمام السيوطي)
It was written by Jalal ad-Din al-Mahalli and completed by his student Jalal ad-Din as-Suyuti.

Some scholars say that this book closely resembles a Matn and may not be as easily grasped as other texts. Thus, one should consider buying a Haashiyah of the book such as the one by Mulla ‘Ali Qaari’.

It is also advisable to strengthen one's understanding of 'Aqeedah before delving into this book, as certain sections of this Tafseer do not align with the 'Aqeedah of Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah.

Fiqh

In this chapter, we will temporarily set aside book recommendations for Fiqh. While the AMAU prospectus includes coverage of Shafi'i Fiqh, navigating through Fiqh texts from other schools may necessitate additional self-development courses.

Books for Students of Knowledge - Part 2

Chapter Ten

As we reach the final stage of constructing your Islamic library, we arrive at the third category: encyclopaedias and comprehensive references. These indispensable resources serve as pillars of knowledge, providing extensive coverage across various fields of Islamic scholarship.

TAFSEER



16 **Tafseer At-Tabari by Muḥammad ibn Jarīr al-Ṭabarī**
(تفسير الطبري : جامع البيان عن تأويل آي القرآن)

This book is the most comprehensive book of Tafseer, and it is highly recommended to have it in your library.

17 **Zaad Al-Maseer Fi ‘Ilm At-Tafseer by Ibn al-Jawzi**
(زاد المسير في علم التفسير - الإمام ابن الجوزي)

One of the notable benefits of this Tafseer is its systematic approach to presenting differences of opinion in each verse. At times, the author identifies which opinion is deemed the most correct.

18 **Adwaa’ Al-Bayaan by Muhammad al-Amin ash-Shanqiti**
(أضواء البيان في إيضاح القرآن بالقرآن - العلامة محمد الأمين الشنقيطي)

The author of this Tafseer is considered a Mujtahid of our times and has taught at Masjid an-Nabawi. The book is based on the audio lectures of ash-Shanqiti and was compiled and printed later on.

19 **Tafseer al-Qurtubi**
(تفسير القرطبي - الجامع لأحكام القرآن)

It is important to note that there may be major or minor issues in this book related to ‘Aqeedah that require careful examination. If you do not have a strong understanding of ‘Aqeedah, it is recommended to strengthen your understanding of ‘Aqeedah before immersing yourself in this text.

HADITH

Kutub Al-Sittah - These are the foundational books of hadith, comprising the six most esteemed collections:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 ● Sahih al-Bukhari | 4 ● Sunan ibn Majah |
| 2 ● Sahih Muslim | 5 ● Sunan al-Tirmidhi |
| 3 ● Sunan Abi Dawud | 6 ● Sunan an-Nasa'i |

For better understanding, it is recommended to get these books along with their explanations:



- 20 Sahih Al-Bukhari (صحيح البخاري)
- 21 Fath Al-Bari by Ibn Hajar Al-Asqalani (فتح الباري بشرح صحيح البخاري - الحافظ ابن حجر العسقلاني)
- 22 Sahih Muslim (صحيح مسلم)
- 23 Sharh Sahih Muslim by Imam an-Nawawi (المنهاج - صحيح مسلم بشرح النووي)



- 24 Al-Bahr Al-Muheet Ath-Thajjaaj Fi Sharh Saheeh Muslim ibn Al-Hajjaaj by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Adam Al-Ityubi (البحر المحيط الثجاج في شرح صحيح الإمام مسلم بن الحجاج - محمد بن آدم الإتيوبي)
- 25 Sunan Abi Dawud (سنن أبي داود)
- 26 'Awn Al-Ma'bood Fi Sharh Sunan Abi Dawood by Al-Adhim Abadi (عون المعبود شرح سنن أبي داود - العظيم آبادي)
- 27 Sunan ibn Majah (سنن ابن ماجه)



- 28 Misbah Az-Zujaajah 'Ala Sunan ibn Majah (مصباح الزجاجة على سنن ابن ماجه)

Try to look for an edition that has commentary by Imam As-Suyuti and Imam As-Sindi.

29 Sunan At-Tirmidhi (سنن الترمذي)

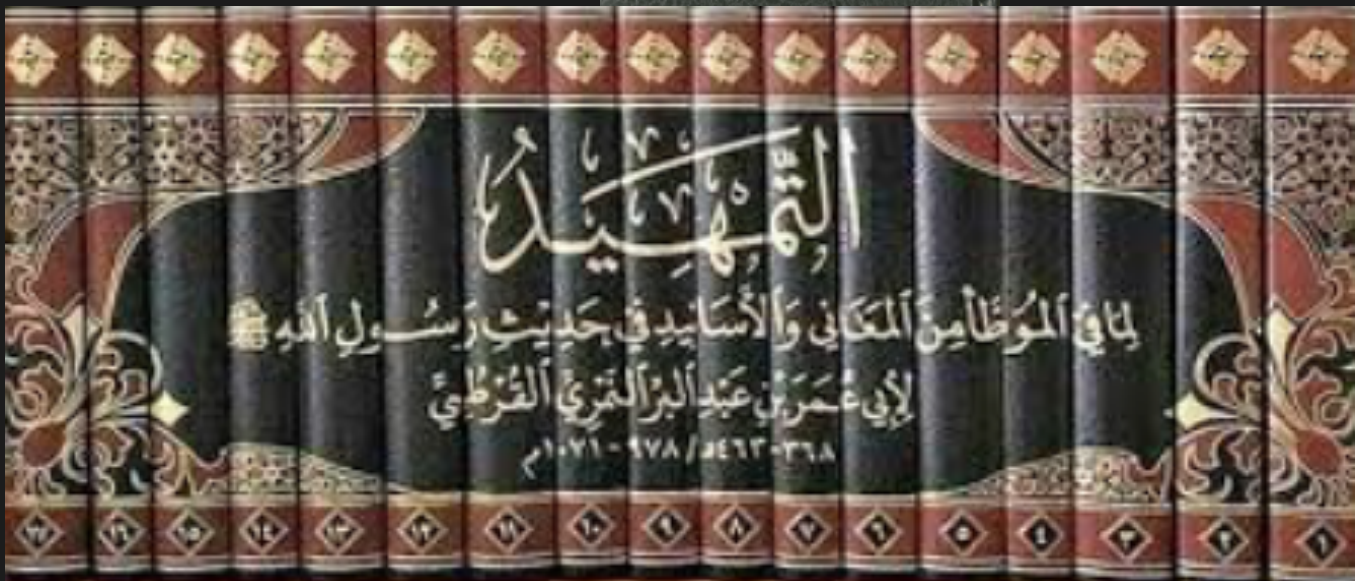
30 Tuhfah Al-Ahwadhi Bi Sharh Jami' At-Tirmidhi
(تحفة الأحوذى بشرح جامع الترمذى - المباركفوري)

31 Sunan an-Nasa'i (سنن النسائي)

32



33



32 Sharh Sunan an-Nasa'i by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Adam Al-It'yubi
(شرح سنن النسائي للشيخ محمد علي آدم)

This book spans 44 volumes and is regarded as one of the most comprehensive and esteemed explanations of an-Nasa'i. Some scholars say that it provides an extensive commentary comparable to Ibn Hajar's explanation and service for Sahih al-Bukhari.

33 At-Tamhid (Sharh Al-Muwatta) by Imam ibn 'Abd Al-Barr
(التمهيد للحافظ ابن عبد البر)

FIQH

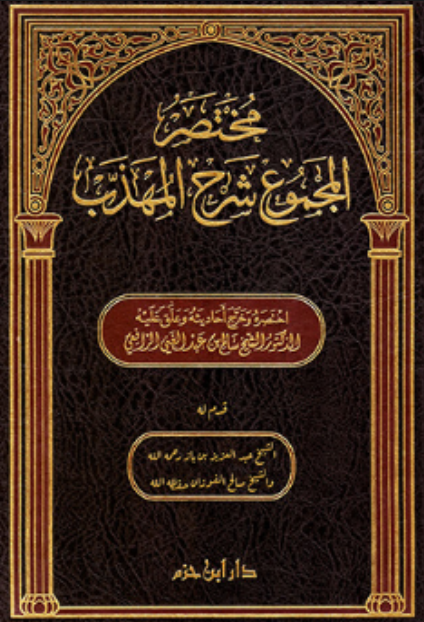
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Sharh Usool I'tiqaad Ahlus-Sunnah Wa Al-Jamaa'ah by Al-Imaam Al-Laalakaa'ee
(شرح أصول اعتقاد أهل السنة والجماعة - الإمام
اللالكائي)

Al-Majmu' Sharh Al-Muhadhdhab
by Imam an-Nawawi
(المجموع شرح المذهب - الإمام النووي)

35



The aforementioned books are indeed among the greatest in Fiqh, which aligns with the requirements of this stage. Comparative Fiqh entails presenting evidence from different schools of thought (Madhaahib) or even from the practices of the righteous predecessors.

'AQEEDAH

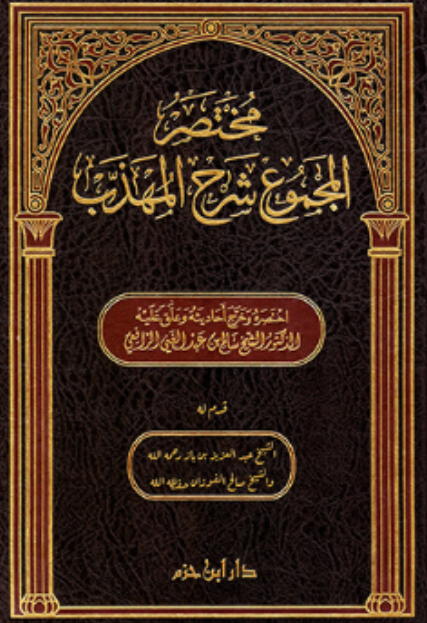
36



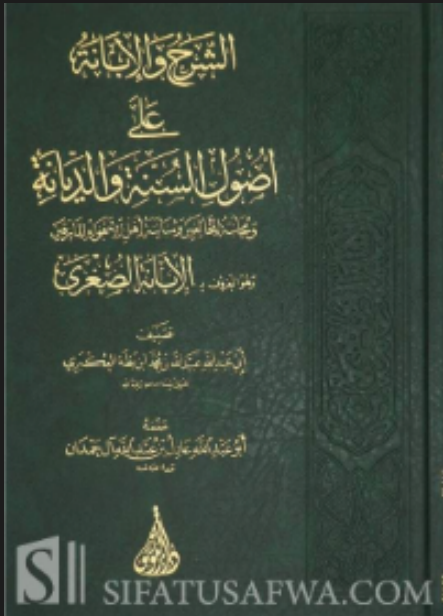
Sharh Usool I'tiqaad Ahlus-Sunnah Wa Al-Jamaa'ah by Al-Imaam Al-Laalakaa'ee
(شرح أصول اعتقاد أهل السنة والجماعة - الإمام
(اللالكائي)

**Kitab Al-Sharee'ah
by Imam Al-Ajurri**
(الشریعة للإمام الآجری)

37



38



**Ash-Sharh Wa Al-Ibānah
by Ibn Battah Al-Akbari**
(الإبانة الصغرى - الإمام ابن بطة)

The aforementioned books also narrate the opinions of scholars in ‘Aqeedah who preceded them (such as Imam Ash-Shafi’i, Imam Ahmad, Imam Abu Hanifah, and even some of the Sahaabah رَضِيََ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ) in their own chains of transmission.

**Sharh Al-‘Aqeedah At-Tahawiyyah
by Ibn Abul 'Izz Al-Hanafi**
(شرح العقيدة الطحاوية للإمام ابن أبي العز الحنفي)

39



This book is already included in the AMAU curriculum. You may find the same in the Advanced Level in your study of classical texts in ‘Aqeedah.

Vital Advice When Buying Books



Chapter Eleven

As we conclude our discussion on building an Islamic library, we must reflect on the intention behind our efforts. Every purchase of a book should be motivated by the sincere intention and desire to seek the pleasure of Allah ﷻ.

Ultimately, our goal transcends mere gathering of knowledge; it is about striving for success in this life and the Hereafter.

Acquiring books for the purpose of displaying them to impress others or using them purely as decorative items in your home will not provide any benefit to you.

Intention to Please Allah ﷻ

When buying books, it is essential to purify our intentions, ensuring that every purchase is made with the intention to seek knowledge for the sake of Allah ﷻ - it should be a means to draw closer to Allah ﷻ and attain His pleasure.

Reflect on these lines of poetry:

وقائلة أنفقت في الكتب ما حوت يمينك من مالٍ
فقلت دعيني
لعلِّي أرى فيها كتاباً يدُلُّني لأخذِ كتابي آمناً بيمينِي

She said, “You have spent as much money as your right hand can contain on books.” So I said, “Leave me.”

“Perhaps I will see a book in it that will guide me to take my book safely in my right hand (on the Day of Judgement).”

Just as some strive in the path of Allah ﷻ through acts of worship, charity and night prayers, others may find their path to Jannah through the pursuit of knowledge.

The tragedy is when these methods are diverted from their intended purpose and instead are used solely for worldly gains (i.e to gain people’s liking, approval or admiration).

Regardless of the means, what matters is the sincerity of our intention and the steadfastness of our commitment to pleasing Allah ﷻ in all aspects of our lives.

Let us remember that every book we acquire has the potential to lead us closer to the ultimate success of being granted entry into Jannah.

May Allah ﷻ protect us and guide us on the path of righteousness, and may our actions be solely for His sake.



To ensure your progress,
we recommend that you take
this self evaluation quiz based
on the notes and video
series that you have
just completed.

Attempt Quiz

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